March 14, 2020

John Zicconi, Secretary
Vermont Transportation Board
Agency of Transportation
14 Baldwin Street
Montpelier, VT, 05602

RE:

**Naming Transportation Facility** 

Terminal Building @ The Rutland State Airport

Dear Mr. Zicconi:

Attached is a petition to name the existing terminal at the Rutland Southern Vermont State Airport after Walter E. Houghton. Walt, as he was known, was born in Rutland in 1940 and was a devoted aviator and aviation professional. The enclosed petition has over 90 signatures of Vermonters, most of whom knew and respected Walter, including a significant number who worked with Walt during his many years serving as the Manager of State Airports, Director of Aviation at the Burlington International Airport and his service in the VT Air Guard.

I am also enclosing a copy of an unsolicited letter from Norris LaClair, who had known and worked with Walt since the 1970s. This letter depicts typical support for this petition by the many people, with whom I've discussed this petition, who knew and appreciated Walt's devotion to Vermont Aviation.

Thank you for accepting this petition. Please contact me or Walt's family if you need additional information.

Sincerely, Juneo

Gerald D'Amico

PO Box 96

Roxbury, VT, 05669

cc:

Pauline Houghton

PO Box 658

Shelburne, VT, 05482 (954) – 609-4439

## Petition to Name a Transportation Facility To the

## **Vermont Transportation Board**

**Proposed Facility:** 

Existing Terminal Building at the Rutland Southern Vermont Regional Airport in

Clarendon, VT

**Proposed Name:** 

Walter E. Houghton Memorial Terminal

**Petition Contact:** 

Gerald D'Amico, PO Box 96/150 Tracy Hill, Roxbury, VT, 05669 [802-485-4735;

jerrydamico@tds.net]

## Naming Information:

(1) Justification:

Walter E. Houghton, born in Rutland on December 18, 1940, and raised in Bridgewater, VT

Following service in the US Air Force, where he earned his private pilot license, Walt Houghton went to work for Mohawk Airlines. In 1970, he joined the VT Aeronautics Board, now included within VTrans, as the Manager of State Airports, before managing Northern Airways fixed base operation in Burlington. In 1983, he was selected as the Director of Aviation at the Burlington International Airport, where he was successful in promoting the growth of airline service [Peoples Express], constructing the first major terminal expansion that included jet ways, planning for the first parking garage, and expansion of the fixed based operations into 'the valley'. Walt's concern for providing aircraft with a safe landing area earned BTV its first<sup>t</sup> of several Berndt Balchen Awards for snow and ice removal from the American Association of Airport Executives.

While with VTrans, Walt was instrumental in guiding VT Airports, assisting in the implementation of the State Airport System Plan, leading search and rescue operations, accident pre-planning, ensuring adequate fire/rescue equipment and facilities were available to the state airports and implementing both an effective winter snow removal plan and a continuing maintenance program.

His concern for aviation safety got him involved with the Saab Friction Tester, used to determine the braking conditions aircraft should expect on a runway during winter snow and ice conditions. Walt received numerous accolades from his peers, including Florida Aviation Professional of the Year [Florida Airports Council], Glenn Curtis Award [Greater Miami Aviation Association], and the Wright Brothers Master Pilot Award.

Walt shared his passion for aviation and aircraft safety with future devotees. Following retirement as the Director of Aviation for the Broward County [FL] Department of Aviation, he taught courses in aviation planning, aviation history, and aviation management at Embry Riddle, Broward County Community College, McDill Air Force Base, and Central Florida Aerospace Academy.

Walt was a student of aviation history. He served on several museum boards, organized several air shows in Vermont, and he was contributor of the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve. Walt was passionate about aviation. His profession was also his hobby.

When he wasn't managing a new aviation program or project, he was flying his beloved N3N or promoting aviation. Walt was an accomplished artist, painting aviation landscapes and/or actual airplanes. As late as this past winter, Walt was active in planning for BTVs 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary and the on-going search for a Rockwell Commander, lost after leaving BTV in January, 1971, and presumed crashed into Lake Champlain. Walt wanted closure for the families of those on board the aircraft.

Many people love their work. Walt lived a life fostering aviation.

Walt passed away on March 13,2019. He leaves his wife, Pauline, a son, Jeffrey, and daughter, Jennifer and their families along with numerous friends, associates, and students.

(2) Location: The Rutland Southern Vermont Regional Airport is located on Airport Road in the Town of Clarendon. The terminal building is located at 1002 Airport Road, Clarendon, VT.

- (3) The Airport was developed by the Department of Defense in 1942 as part of the World War II defense effort. It was turned over to the City of Rutland, as the Rutland Municipal Airport after the war. Ownership of the airport was transferred to the State of Vermont [the Vt Aeronautics Board] in July, 1969. [recorded in the Clarendon Land Records in Book 34, Pages 264-266]. In the ensuing fifty years, the airport has added numerous improvements, including aircraft parking aprons, taxiways, electronic landing aids, upgraded lighting and other visual aids, numerous aircraft storage hangars, and a fire station. Currently there is a transportation highway garage facility on the west side of the main runway off Route 7B. The airport currently contains approximately 344 acres.
- (4) The airport is owned, maintained and managed by the VT Agency of Transportation/Policy, Planning and Intermodal Development, Aviation Program. The airport manager is Christopher Beitzel [802-786-8881]. The transportation garage is managed by the Agency of Transportation, Maintenance and Operations, District 3.
- (5) The airport is designated as the Rutland Southern Vermont Regional Airport, there is no formal name for the "Terminal Building". The airport was originally named the Rutland Municipal Airport, which was changed to the Rutland State Airport upon transfer to the State of Vermont. Currently, the official name of the airport is the Rutland Southern Vermont Regional Airport.
- (6) The terminal is currently used by:
  - VT Agency of Transportation: Airport Manager's office
  - Lessee: Cape Air [the airline]: offices, waiting, ticketing, and boarding areas
  - Lessee: US Transportation Security Agency [TSA]: TSA security office
  - Lessee: The Hangar Café [restaurant]

## **Petition Contact:**

Gerald D'Amico 150 Tracy Hill, PO Box 96 Roxbury, VT, 05669 802-485-4735 jerrydamico@tds.net

MARCH 9, 2020

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	Printed Name	Signature	Complete address [both mailing & residence]
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2	Peter Kelley O	PKRU	Bours VT. 05641
3	Karl a Rinker	Karl A. Rinker	
4	Steve Skinner	Stee Shinner	57 Highland Ave. North field, Vt. 05663
5	Bobber	Robertoan	P.O BOY79 Bechelit/ 05032
6	GEROLD NOYES	Coroll has	PO BOX 3/ VT NORTHFIELD FALLS 05664
7	VIM MASER		Ridge View Da Beryn it
8	Sam Beirhe	Le By C	188 Stewart RO-Beiliner.
9	PATRICIA A FORBES	Patricia aforber	Barre, Vt 05641
10	Hank Buemann	1	275 woods Rd Brookfield, VT 05-036
11	Frederick Squiers	pully	9 moonlight Dr Barre Vt 056411
12	ROBERT BURLEY	Rossinley	1208 RTE12 ELMONE, VT 05657
13	William Martin	W. Dean Martin	StAndrews Church
14	Ment Cogn	m	Berre, VT 05641

	Printed Name	Signature	Complete address [both mailing & residence]
15	Calvin W. Kemp	Sper	134 Scenic View Dr. Northfield, VT 05663
16	BRUNO FROHLICH	_ /	237 Windwill La Williamstown, VT 05679
17	MORRIS HOLT	mornin Hoet	49 LADD RD. NORTH FIELD, VT 05663
18	Kyle Bedard	Why Bloch	76 North Forty Ln. Middlebury, VT 05753
19	Andrew Woodhams		BANE, VT 05641
20	Elaine Ojaka	Clau Gale	58 terroce St montpelier, UT 05602
21	Joe ILLUZZI	Joe Drov	138 maia ST Montpeties VT 05602
22	UASON OWEN	Jason Owen	12 Laurel St. Barre, VT 05641
23	GARY SCHELKY	Try Schilley	123 POINT RIDGE BOAD BARRE, YT 05641
	RICH TURNER		WILLIAMSTOWN, VT 05679

	Printed Name	Signature	Complete address [both mailing & residence]
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26	SCOA Dreper	fatt Degre	Revolut VT. 01708
27	TREFAT METEWI	1) Thel	5 Doubleday Lane Essex SI MOS452
28	195	George socy	3upoter Ut 0548V
29	BARBARA MURPHY	Barbara Murph	7 Lily Rd FAIRFAK VT 05454
30	NOBBAT T.FLIXT	1072	SPRINGFIELD, VT 05636
31	Sea Dle	f Dly	54 Cliff St 540smiber 4
32	Janice & Beasles	MRS JANICE LPEASKE	P.U.BOX/2 Evildhall, Yto5905
33	Chris Curren	Olin Gym	751 Granger Kel. Berlin UT 05/601
34	0	Man .	Swanton, 4 05488
	1		Barre VI 05641
35	Jason Owen	Jason Owen	SIGNED ON ANOTHER SHEET
36	charles Rockoz	11 Conhiell	331 Neilsm Rl Puwlet IN 05761
37	Parrick Shurrow	Salar Starron	82 Logwood 9T So BWT1 05403
38	DAVID COLET	NO.	PSharrow C Hoyle TAMEN, COME 1304 W. MOUNTAIN SHAFTSBURY VT 05262

Petition to name the terminal at the Rutland Southern Vt Airport the Walter E Houghton Memorial Terminal

Petition to name the terminal at the Rutland Southern Vt Airport the Walter E Houghton Memorial Terminal

Printed Name

All persons signing this petition certify that they are at least 18 years of age.

Printed Name		
Stacy Leverile	Glocy Serials	P.O. box 8523 (mailing) 127 Cambridge RC Essex Tunction, Vt 05451 Westford, VT 0540
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DOUG HALL	Sociel Hay	FAIRFIELD VT 05435
Kevin Cain	Kom Can	68 CiRcle Rd Milton, VT 05468
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51	Kendrew	Heather Tayell	Westford, UT 05494
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52	Meno 61	13. R 11.1	Berlington, Ut 05401
	Daire Van	Sur all	10 Southview Road
53	Daniel Kerin	1911)	Essex Jct. VT 05452
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54	Tim Bedare	(-(-)	Bid:01 05-408
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56	Thomas Carpenter	D K	126 Loan Ave
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57	JACOB BONGRSON	(15B	161 MRLEDY LN
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60	Shelby Losier	X	Colchester, VT 05446
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Petition to name the terminal at the Rutland Southern Vt Airport the "Walter E Houghton Memorial Terminal"

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Prii	nted Name	Signature	Complete address [both mailing & residence]
Gerald D'Am	ico		PO Box 96/150 Tracy Hill, Roxbury, VT, 05669
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83	Shirkey	Sherley	172 Wedgewood Road
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87	Tavid Wirnach	Jain Van	110 North Care Rd
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,	Printed Name	Signature	P.O. BOX 6155 RUTVT 05702
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